

HOUSE BILL 3638
By Litz

AN ACT relative to memorial designations on State Route
840.

WHEREAS, Chapter 35 of the Public Acts of 2005 designated State Route 840 in its entirety, from its intersection with Interstate Highway 40 West in Dickson County to its intersection with Interstate Highway 40 East in Wilson County, including segments of such highway still under construction, as the "Tennessee National Guard Parkway" as a lasting tribute to the brave men and women who helped establish the time-honored tradition of Tennessee volunteerism, as well as those who continue this proud tradition today, as members of the Tennessee National Guard; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the spirit of such act, the general assembly finds it imperative to limit future designations on State Route 840 to honor the memory of those courageous members of the Tennessee National Guard who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives while engaged in active duty; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, it is the intent of this general assembly to name an appropriate bridge or bridges on State Route 840 (Tennessee National Guard Parkway) to honor the memory of Sergeant Paul W. Thomason III of Talbot, a valiant Tennessee National Guardsman who gave his life in the line of duty.

SECTION 2. To effectuate the purposes of this act, the department of transportation shall identify an appropriate bridge or bridges on State Route 840 to bear Sergeant Paul W. Thomason's honorable name. The final decision in selecting the appropriate bridge or bridges shall be made in consultation with the representative and senator representing the district in which Sergeant Thomason resided.

SECTION 3. The department of transportation shall erect suitable signs or affix suitable markers designating the selected bridge or bridges as the "Sergeant Paul W. Thomason III Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, §54-1-133.

SECTION 4. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.